

1140 Avenue of the Americas, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10036 phone: 212-257-4880

www.shapiroarato.com

Alexandra A.E. Shapiro ashapiro@shapiroarato.com Direct: 212-257-4881

May 8, 2025

VIA EMAIL

Hon. Arun Subramanian United States District Judge Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

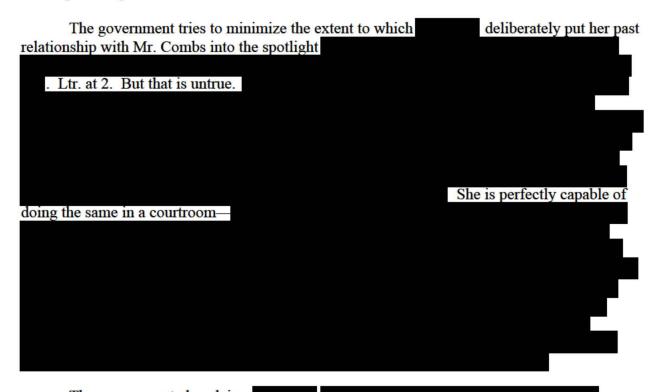
> Re: United States v. Combs, 24-cr-542 (AS)

| Dear Judge Subramanian: |
|---|
| We write in opposition to the government's eleventh-hour request, filed earlier today, for (Victim-5) to be permitted to testify at trial under a pseudonym. |
| For starters, the request should be denied as untimely. The government had ample opportunity to include in its motion in limine for the use of pseudonyms, but (perhaps for its own strategic reasons) chose not to do so. The government first learned that yet elected not to seek permission for her to testify under a pseudonym in the extensive prior briefing and oral argument concerning pseudonymous testimony. |
| In any event, the government provides no legitimate basis for using a pseudonym here. For all the reasons previously articulated by the defense in prior briefing on this issue, the use of a pseudonym would unduly infringe Mr. Combs's constitutional rights and is unsupported by any legitimate interest. See Dkts.248, 266. And is in a very different position from the two witnesses the Court has allowed to testify under fake names. Indeed, the government's new request is not even a close call. The concerns raised in the government's letter are entirely illusory and provide no basis to cloak anonymity. |
| The government claims cannot testify under her real name Ltr. at 1. In fact, unlike alleged Victims 2 and 4, voluntarily and publicly shared details of her relationship with Mr. Combs |

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decided *not* to protect her own privacy, and voluntarily took the risks of any negative publicity that might result from broadcasting her story to the public. Thus, any incremental negative publicity from her testimony cannot trump Mr. Combs's constitutional rights or the presumption of an open and public trial.



The government also claims

Ltr. at 2, but that is not a real concern that would justify a pseudonym here either.

Indeed, it is a problem the government itself can—and has offered to—resolve. The prosecutors told counsel that the government is

Finally, the government's requested relief would be totally futile.

who has already been identified by the press in connection with this case—

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And she will be cross-examined about her statements

The public will know (and already knows) exactly who she is. There is therefore no legitimate argument that a pseudonym would even protect from the illusory harms cited by the government. See Dkt.248 at 14-15.

For the foregoing reasons, the Court should deny the government's request.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Alexandra A.E. Shapiro
Alexandra A.E. Shapiro
Jason A. Driscoll
SHAPIRO ARATO BACH LLP
1140 Avenue of the Americas, 17th Fl.
New York, NY 10036
(212) 257-4880
ashapiro@shapiroarato.com
jdriscoll@shapiroarato.com

Marc Agnifilo Teny Geragos AGNIFILO INTRATER 445 Park Ave., 7th Fl. New York, NY 10022 646-205-4350 marc@agilawgroup.com teny@agilawgroup.com

Anna Estevao HARRIS TRZASKOMA LLP 156 West 56th Street, Suite 2004 New York, NY 10019 (212) 970-6465 aestevao@harristrz.com

Brian Steel THE STEEL LAW FIRM, P.C. 1800 Peachtree Street, Ste. 300 Atlanta, GA 30309

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(404) 605-0023

Xavier R. Donaldson 136 Madison Ave, 6th Floor New York, New York 10016 646-772-3334 Xdonaldson@aol.com Page 4

Nicole Westmoreland, Esq. WESTMORELAND LAW, LLC 132 Cone Street, Suite A Atlanta, GA 30303 Tel: (404) 446-2620 nw@westmorelandlawgroup.com